

State of Connecticut HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE CAPITOL HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

Representative Ron Napoli

73rd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Thank you Co-Chairs Senator Hartley, Representative Currey, Ranking Members Senator Martin and Representative Buckbee, Vice Chairs Senator Cohen and Representative Rochelle and distinguished members of the Commerce Committee for bringing forward this important piece of legislation.

I am writing today to express my support for proposed SB 113, An Act Authorizing Bonds of the State for a Handicap Accessible Platform at the Waterbury Stop of the Naugatuck Rail Line. I would like to thank this committee for always supporting the efforts to improve economic conditions along the Waterbury/Naugatuck branch line.

This bill would grant the State Bond Commission the power to authorize the issuance of bonds of the state in accordance with section 3-20 of the general statutes, in principal amounts not exceeding a certain number of dollars, the proceeds of which shall be used by the Department of Economic and Community Deveopment for the purpose of providing a grant-in-aid to the city of Waterbury to fund the design and construction of a handicap accessible platform at the Waterbury stop of the Naugatuck rail line.

Throughout the country, accessible public transit remains elusive making day-to-day and long-haul travel a hardship for individuals who are physically disabled. Public transit is an important asset not only to the City of Waterbury, but to the state of Connecticut as a whole. In this day and age, inclusivity is integral!

Accessible public transportation within Connecticut is long-overdue and I implore the Commerce Committee to support SB 113. As always thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Ronald Napoli, Jr.

Rom Napoli for

State Representative – 73rd District